

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8835

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, CH, TW

SUBJECT: CHINA POST EDITORIAL ON U.S. CHINA POLICY

REF: A) TAIPEI 1678, B) TAIPEI 1673

1. THE FLURRY OF ARTICLES ON U.S. CHINA POLICY, U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AND TROOP WITHDRAWALS (REPORTED REF A) WHICH APPEARED IN THE MARCH 13-15 CHINESE-LANGUAGE LOCAL PRESS HAS AT LEAST TEMPORARILY ABATED. HOWEVER, THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHINA POST ADDED ITS VIEWS IN A MARCH 16 EDITORIAL COMMENTING ON U.S. CHINA POLICY.

2. THE EDITORIAL, LIKE THE MARCH 15 CHINA NEWS EDITORIAL (REF B), VIEWED PRESIDENT FORD'S LATEST "PRONOUNCEMENT ON SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS" AS A SOURCE OF COMFORT AS WELL AS CONCERN FOR THE ROC. IT EXPRESSED GRATITUDE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE "A SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT ON THIS ISSUE TO DISPEL SPECULATION CURRENTLY IN CIRCULATION." AT THE SAME  
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TIME, IT EXPRESSED REGRET THAT PRESIDENT FORD "STILL CLINGS

TO THE DISCREDITED POLICY" OF NORMALIZATION.

3. THE EDITORIAL ALSO RAISED THE SAME QUESTION RAISED BY THE EARLIER CHINA NEWS AND CHUNG YANG JIH PAO EDITORIALS REGARDING THE MEANING OF A "PROPER RELATIONSHIP" WITH THE ROC. "IF IT MEANS ANY ALTERATION OF THE EXISTING CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ROC AND THE U.S.," THE EDITORIAL COMMENTED, IT SHOULD BE A SUBJECT OF KEEN CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE ROC. "FROM OUR STANDPOINT," THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDED, "THE PRESENT GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS IS THE PROPER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FRIENDS OF MANY YEARS STANDING. IT SHOULD NOT BE WEAKENED OR REPLACED LIGHTLY."

4. COMMENT: WHILE SEEKING ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORTED REMARKS, LOCAL PRESS SPECULATION, WHICH HAS FOCUSED LARGELY ON THE PRESIDENT'S USE OF THE TERM "PROPER RELATIONSHIP," IS SOMEWHAT REMINISCENT OF PRESS COMMENTARY ABOUT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REMARKS ON THE JAPANESE MODEL IN DECEMBER 1975. AND TO THE EXTENT IT PROMPTS THE LOCAL POPULACE TO GIVE MORE THOUGHT TO FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING US/ROC RELATIONS, IT IS HELPFUL TO THE CONDITIONING PROCESS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Reference:** 76 TAIPEI 1678, 76 TAIPEI 1673  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, US, CH, TW, (FORD, GERALD R)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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